

Board Administration and Regulatory Coordination Unit

Division 3. Air Resources Board

Chapter 1. Air Resources Board

Subchapter 1.5. Air Basins and Air Quality Standards

Article 3. Criteria for Determining Area Designations

§ 70302. Geographic Extent of Designations.

(a) An air basin will be the area designated for ozone, nitrogen dioxide, suspended particulate matter (PM10), sulfates, and visibility reducing particles. Provided, however, if the state board finds (based on air quality data, meteorology, topography, or the distribution of population and emissions) that there are areas within an air basin with distinctly different air quality deriving from sources and conditions not affecting the entire air basin, the state board may designate an area smaller than an air basin using political boundary lines to the extent practicable. In designating an area smaller than an air basin as nonattainment, the state board will include within the area those sources whose emissions contribute to a violation of a standard for that pollutant. Contiguous areas which would have the same designation within an air basin will be one designated area.

(b) A county or the portion of a county which is located within an air basin will be the area designated for carbon monoxide, sulfur dioxide, lead (particulate), and hydrogen sulfide. Provided, however, if the state board finds (based on air quality data, meteorology, topography, or the distribution of population and emissions) that there are areas within the county with distinctly different air quality, it may designate a smaller area. In designating an area smaller than a county as nonattainment, the state board will include within the area those sources whose emissions contribute to a violation of a standard for that pollutant.

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 39600, 39601, 39607 and 39608, Health and Safety Code. Reference: Sections 39607 and 39608, Health and Safety Code.

REFERENCE